

16.16, Denial, Closure, Suspended Admissions, or On-Hold Status of Foster Homes	
Application: DCS Foster Care and Supervisory Employees and Contract Provider Employees	
Authority: TCA 36-1-126, 37-5-105 (3), 37-5-106, 37-4-201 et seq, Adoption and Safe Families Act P.L. 96-272, TCA 37-4-2-1 et seq, Safe and Timely Interstate Placement Act of Children in Foster Care Act of 2006 - P.L. 109-239	Standards: COA: CFS 12.08; 14.11; 22.03; 23.08; 23.09; 23.10; 24.05; 26.03; 26.05
Original Effective Date: 04/01/98 Current Effective Date: 4/16/2025	Supersedes: 12/20/2024 Last Review Date: 2/19/25
Glossary: None	

Policy Statement:

The Department of Children's Services (DCS) may deny any application for foster parenting, close an existing approved foster home, or suspend admissions if the foster parents cannot meet the minimum approval requirements or are not promoting the DCS standards of professional practice. Foster parents are permitted to place their own home on-hold, providing them an opportunity to take a break from being contacted about or accepting new placements.

Purpose:

To provide a general outline related to denial, closure, suspension, or on-hold status of a foster home.

Procedures:

A. Foster Parent Applications and Approved Foster Homes

1. The Department of Children's Services may deny an application for becoming a foster parent if the prospective family does not meet all the requirements for an approved foster home.
2. An existing foster home may be closed if the family fails to maintain all the necessary requirements that are mandatory for continuing as an approved foster home.
3. An approved or expedited foster home managed by a contract agency or DCS, or is a shared foster home, may be placed on suspended admissions and/or on-hold status in certain situations.

4. If concerns or issues arise in an approved foster home, a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) may be implemented in order to ensure safety in the home and preserve the home's status as an active foster home placement.
5. The Department of Children's Services will address any reason(s) for the denial of a foster home application, as well as any reasons for the closure, with the foster parent applicant in writing.
6. For more specific information and requirements, review the [**Protocol for the Denial, Closure, Suspended Admissions, or On-Hold Status of Foster Homes**](#).

Forms:

Collateral Documents:

[**Protocol for the Denial, Closure, Suspended Admissions, or On-Hold Status of Foster Homes**](#)